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ABSTRACT

This book presents an approach to professional education and higher education institutional reform based on teaching and research in organizational behavior and professional effectiveness. The work presents a theory of action that aims to enhance human activity, responsibility, self-actualization, learning, and effectiveness. In the first of three sections, chapters 1 and 2, "Theories of Action," and "Evaluating Theories of Action," present several theories-in-use and provide a conceptual framework for evaluating them. In the second section, which concerns action, chapters 3 through 7 relate specific theories-in-use to effectiveness and learning in human interaction. Their titles are "Diagnosing Theories-in-Use," "Model I," "Model II" (a model of theories-in-use that is free of the dysfunctionalities of Model I), "Transition from Model I to Model II," and "Learning Model-II Behavior." The final section, on practice, indicates how the theories developed here can be used to reform professional education. It contains three chapters: "Issues in Professional Education," "Implications for Professional Competence and Practice," and "Redesigning Professional Education." Included are notes, an index and 51 references. (JB)

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